

VESUVIUS ERUPTION.

BURIED IN ASHES.

TOWNS ABANDONED.

LONDON, April 12. A terrible hurricane, which was accompanied by torrents of water and showers of volcanic stones the size of eggs from Vesuvius, compelled the people to abandon the town of St. Agatha.

Complete darkness enshrouded San Gennaro, six miles east-north-east of the crater, and there numerous persons have been killed.

Sixty miles east of the crater, is buried in ashes. Most of the people escaped.

April 12. The eruption of Vesuvius is continuing. The volcano appears to have entirely changed, the old cone has almost disappeared, leaving a flattened ridge.

SCIENTIST'S HEROISM.

Professor Motz, the director of the observatory on Mount Vesuvius, remained at his post in the observatory, despite the partial destruction of the building. He has telegraphed that the seismic records portend a quieter time, and are altogether more reassuring.

SIR JOHN FORREST.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE.

CO-PARTNERS IN EMPIRE.

A reception by Western Australian citizens in London, followed by a luncheon, was given to Sir John Forrest, the Federal Treasurer, yesterday. Mr. W. H. James, the Agent-General for the State, presided, and there were also present Mr. D. J. Doherty, Colonel Wilson, Mr. G. P. Doolittle, Sir William Arrol-Johnstone, General for Natal, Mr. W. H. James, Mr. T. A. Coghlan (Agent-General for New South Wales), Mr. J. W. Taverne (Agent-General for Victoria), Mr. J. Thynne, Mr. J. Russell, Colonel Pilkington, Dr. Bridgeford, Lord Strathcona (High Commissioner for Canada), Mr. W. H. Kelly, M.P. (N.S.W.), and Mr. P. Reeves (High Commissioner for New Zealand).

Lord Strathcona, who proposed the health of Sir John Forrest, urged Australia to take every opportunity to rivet the Empire.

Sir John Forrest, in reply, said that the Commonwealth ought never to forget what she owed to the strong arm of England. Arrangements which were once satisfactory became no longer suitable in the changed conditions of the world. Colonial sentiment should be interwoven with the commonwealth, and the colonies becoming co-partners in the Empire.

Mr. W. P. Reeves proposed the toast of "The Commonwealth."

Mr. W. H. Kelly, in responding, urged the early appointment of a High Commissioner. He contradicted the statement of a home newspaper that several experts of the navy and army supported the plans of the Commonwealth for a torpedo-boat flotilla. These plans, he said, were still under consideration.

WARNING TO ANGLICANS.

EDUCATION AGITATION.

RAISING DISSENT.

LONDON, April 12.

Mr. W. Runciman (Liberal), speaking at Newcastle on the education of Canterbury that it was attempted to use the House of Lords as in 1902 on that year's Education Bill with the hope of wrecking the wishes of the House of Commons. It would make disestablishment of the Church inevitable, and would shake the House of Lords to its foundations.

PRINCESS ENA.

LONDON, April 12.

Mr. H. J. Gladstone, the Home Secretary, has informed the Protestant Reformation Society that the assent of King Edward to the marriage of Princess Ena of Battenberg to the King of Spain is not necessary.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS.

LONDON, April 12.

Parliament yesterday adjourned till April 24 over the Easter holidays.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, April 11.

Great Britain, the United States, and Germany desire that the sitting of the Hague International Arbitration Conference shall be postponed till June, 1907.

POSTAL STRIKE IN PARIS.

LONDON, April 12.

The postmen of Paris have struck for an increase of wages, and because the Government does not recognise the Union of Postmen.

MADAME CLARA BUTTS TOUR.

LONDON, April 12.

Mr. J. N. Tait has arranged with Madame Clara Butt and Mr. Kennerley Bradford to give 25 concerts in Australia and New Zealand, commencing in August, 1907.

GENERAL CABLE NEWS.

LONDON, April 12.

The report of the Australian Mortgage, Land, and Finance Company recommends a dividend at the rate of 3 per cent.

LAKE VIEW SOUTH.

LONDON, April 12.

The Lake View South Company has been registered, with a capital of £80,000, to take over the old company.

SOUTH AFRICA.

LAND SETTLEMENT PROBLEM.

LONDON, April 12.

Mr. Churchill, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Colonies, in the House of Commons yesterday, in reply to Sir Gilbert Parker (Conservative), said that the Government was fully alive to the importance of the question of land settlement in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony, and would carefully consider any scheme which was proposed.

The committee, of which Sir West Ridgeway is chairman, would inquire into feasible arrangements to prevent the possible dispossession of new settlers.

THE GOVERNMENT'S TONE.

LONDON, April 12.

The "Times" states that it notes an improvement in the Government's tone in regard to South African affairs generally.

CLEMENCY IN NATAL.

LONDON, April 12.

Sir Henry McCallum, Governor of Natal, acting on the advice of his Executive Council, has exercised the Royal Clemency in the case of five natives who were sentenced to death for rebellion.

Mr. Churchill, in answer to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the Royal Clemency was being administered with very great care and wisdom.

MIDDLEBROOK BOER LEADERS.

LONDON, April 12.

Believing that the speech recently delivered by Mr. Winston Churchill, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Colonies, in the House of Commons, in support of the Boer leaders now residing in the Rand Labour party that the Kruger Government was their only friend.

The Boer leaders are making free attacks on the mining industry and capital, declaring that the latter is trying to produce artificial depression in order to secure political domination.

LAND SETTLEMENT IN IRELAND.

LONDON, April 12.

Mr. James Bryce, Chief Secretary for Ireland, stated to the House of Commons yesterday that the vacancies in the Land Commission of 1906 were thrown open to competition, and the five new members were undoubtedly better qualified than their predecessors. He had no knowledge of the political opinions of the men appointed.

A sum of £100,000,000, Mr. Bryce continued, would be the estimate of the Land Commission in the next 12 months, thus obviating a block in land settlement.

APPOINTMENTS BY COMPETITION.

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BISHOPS UNHESITATING OPPOSITION.

LONDON, April 12.

Thirty-two bishops of England and Wales, at a meeting at Lambeth, resolved that the Education Act Amendment Bill as it stands must be unhesitatingly opposed.

RECIPROCAL TRADE.

LONDON, April 12.

The "Tribune" states that owing to the illness of Mr. W. S. Fielding, the Canadian Minister for Finance, and the sitting of the Dominion Parliament, it is doubtful if the Canadian Minister will be able to meet Sir William Lyne, the Commonwealth Minister for Customs, at Banff, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, but they hope that their desire for reciprocal trade with Australia will bear fruit.

RELATIONS WITH SERBIA.

LONDON, April 12.

Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announced in the House of Commons yesterday that the question of relations cannot be discussed with Serbia while the regicides are official officials. If the regicides are removed and a British representative sent to Belgrade it would be on the understanding that the regicide officers are not reinstated.

A CONGO DIFFICULTY.

LONDON, April 11.

The difficulty between Great Britain and the Congo Free State regarding the Bahir-Ghazal territory has been temporarily solved. The Congo Free State has been temporarily solved. The Congo Free State has been temporarily solved.

REGICIDES MUST BE REMOVED.

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AUSTRALIAN APPLIES.

LONDON, April 12.

The applies exported from Australia by the Ophir were rather better than the Moldavia's shipment, though many are small and spotty. The market is strong. Good specimens are quoted at 10s to 14s, a few 17s, inferior from 7s 6d to 9s per cwt.

GERMAN LOAN.

LONDON, April 12.

The German Imperial 3 per cent. loan of £15,000,000 has been covered one and a half times.

RUSSIA'S DUMA.

CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRATS' POWER.

LONDON, April 11.

Half of the provincial elections to the National Duma and two-thirds of the city elections in European Russia have been decided.

Nine-tenths of the members will support the Government if it will fulfil the manifesto of October 17, 1905.

Everything indicates control of the Duma by the Constitutional Democrats.

It is expected that the Bureau will fight desperately, and will rely upon the Upper House, where 98 per cent. of the members are reactionaries.

EVENTFUL VOYAGES.

THE SCHOONER RAPHAEL IN A CYCLONE.

A TIME OF GREAT PERIL.

THE CREW STRICKEN WITH FEVER.

After a sensational voyage from the islands, the schooner Raphael, which was wrecked on the coast of the Cape of Good Hope, has been rescued.

The crew, which consisted of 12 men, were all suffering from fever, and the ship was in a state of great peril.

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AN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

LONDON, April 12.

The scene of the Courtenay disaster is a place of considerable historical interest, and lies in the midst of a district containing such towns as Douai, which gave English Roman Catholics their translation of the Bible; Arras, the birthplace of Robespierre, but in these days better known for deposits of very rich bituminous coal, which are greatly in request for the manufacture of gas.

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DELAY IN REHEARSING THE CATASTROPHE.

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The delay in rehearsing the catastrophe, which was the subject of the Courtenay disaster, has been caused by the illness of the principal actors.

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A RINKING BARQUE SIGHTED.

THE KALLOPPE TO THE RESCUE.

ALL HANDS SAVED.

The German ship Kallopppe, which, as briefly mentioned yesterday, was sighted in the North Atlantic, has been rescued.

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THE SWANILDA RAPE.

LONDON, April 12.

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THE DAMAGED BARQUE GUNVOR.

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VICTORIA.

QUATRAE RATES.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

A discussion took place at a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Trusts Association, which was held at the Hotel Victoria, Melbourne, on Thursday.

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FIRE AT RICHMOND.

LONDON, April 12.

A fire broke out at Richmond, on Thursday, at 11 o'clock, and the fire was extinguished.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE, Thursday.

Three persons were found at the Adelaide Police Station, who were found to be in possession of stolen goods.

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ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION.

PEAK HILL, Thursday.

As the result of objections lodged by the Peak Hill residents, the Electoral Commission has decided to redistribute the electoral boundaries.

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COURRIERES DISASTER.

GRAPHIC DETAILS OF THE SCENE.

STORIES OF SURVIVORS.

UNPRECEDENTED CALAMITY.

Further details respecting the recent collision disaster in France are contained in the following report from the Courrieres.

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GOOD FRIDAY.

CHURCH SERVICES.

AT ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL.

At St. Andrew's Cathedral morning service will be held at 11 o'clock, with the Litany and ante-communion, and evening at 7.15, with the Litany and ante-communion.

At St. James' Church there will be service at 11 o'clock, with the Litany and ante-communion, and evening at 7.15, with the Litany and ante-communion.

AT ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.

At St. Mary's Cathedral morning service will be held at 11 o'clock, with the Litany and ante-communion, and evening at 7.15, with the Litany and ante-communion.

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AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

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AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL.

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AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

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AT ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL.

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AT ST. OLAV CATHEDRAL.

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